

February 12, 2013

Members of the Senate Committee on Energy & Technology:

I am writing to communicate our support for **Senate Concurrent Resolution 6**, a resolution to urge the President and the Congress of the United States to support the continued and increased development and importation of oil derived from North American reserves and to urge the United States Secretary of State to approve the newly-routed Keystone XL pipeline application from TransCanada.. The Detroit Regional Chamber supports continued and increased importation of Canadian oil as the best option to support current economic activity until such time as next generation energy solutions are feasible.

The Keystone XL Oil Pipeline is a \$20 billion project to more efficiently move crude oil from the Canadian oil sands to the American market by linking more directly to refineries in the gulf coast. The pipeline project is expected to directly create more than 20,000 high-wage manufacturing jobs and construction jobs in the U.S. during construction alone. Current projections have Canada's oil reserves at 175 billion barrels, making it the third largest oil reserve in the world. Approximately \$13 billion of the project spend is in improvements to U.S. infrastructure that is currently overwhelmed by crude supply.

At a time when we are witnessing continued turmoil in the Middle East and global oil demand remains on the rise, approving the Keystone XL pipeline project will boost America's energy security by improving supply flexibility. Canada is already our largest supplier of imported crude oil — supplying one fourth of our needs. With this project, Canadian crude imports could reach 4 million barrels a day by 2020, which is more than twice what we currently import from the Persian Gulf. Approving the project in its entirety would send a positive message to the markets that, according to EIA, will put downward pressure on prices at the pump.

After more than three years of review, this shovel-ready project received a clean bill of health from the Department of State's August 26, 2011 Final Environmental Impact Statement. It is supported by organized labor, hundreds of mayors and veterans from across the country and thousands of businesses, who understand the benefits the pipeline and the development of Canadian oil sands will bring to the United States. Attempts to block the Keystone XL pipeline project from moving forward would only further delay the construction of the pipeline, hurting American workers and harming our nation's energy and national security. The project has been stalled long enough and we urge you to support efforts to encourage the construction of the pipeline.

The Detroit Regional Chamber values our strong relationship with Canada and we ask that you vote **YES** on **Senate Concurrent Resolution 6** to support this uniquely positive alliance and encourage those in Washington to reject efforts to further delay the construction of the Keystone XL pipeline.

Sincerely,

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